GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3945
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005
UTILIZATION OF FUNDS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Rawat Shri Kamla Prasad;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has not been able to spend money during the current year meant to eliminate the dehumanizing practice of people physically carrying human excreta as reported in the `Times of India` dated November 19,2005;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the details of the projects pending with the Union Government for approval State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) the details of the projects approved by the Union Government during the current year;

(e) the measures taken by the Union Government to eliminate such practice;

(f) whether the Government has failed to utilize the UN financial assistance meant for urban poor;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor;

(h) the assistance received by the Government from UN and utilized under the said Project; and

(i) the steps taken by the Government to utilize UN grants fully for this purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA)

(a)to(d): The Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (ILCS) is demand driven scheme from the States and the implementation of

these schemes rests with the State Governments. In the Budget Estimate (BE) for the financial year 2005-06, an amount of Rs.30 crore has been allocated for the Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme. The projects received from the State Governments under ILCS have been approved in principle but funds could not be released so far due to non submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) from the States in respect of funds released in previous years.

(e): Planning Commission has formulated a National Action Plan for total eradication of manual scavenging by 2007. For effective implementation and monitoring of the National Action Plan, a Central Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has been constituted.

(f): No, Sir.

(g): Does not arise.

(h)(i): As per the Project Document on the national strategy for Urban Poor signed between the Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation(UE&PA), Ministry of Finance and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in October, 2003, an amount equivalent to US $ 5 million (approximately Rs.22.75 crores at current exchange rate) is to be utilized for the project upto 31.12.2007. So far the Ministry of UE&PA has utilized Rs. 6.40 crores.